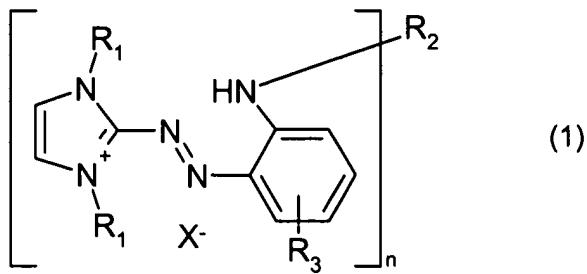


1. (currently amended): Cationic dye of formula (1)



(1)

wherein

R<sub>1</sub> is an unsubstituted or substituted C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>14</sub>alkyl or an aryl radical;

X<sup>-</sup> is an anion;

R<sub>3</sub> is an unsubstituted or substituted C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>14</sub>alkyl, aryl radical, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>alkoxy, ~~cyanid~~ cyanide, nitro or halide;

n is 1 or 2; and

if n is 1, then R<sub>2</sub> is hydrogen, unsubstituted or substituted C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>14</sub>alkyl; or

if n is 2, then R<sub>2</sub> is an unsubstituted or substituted C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>14</sub>alkylene C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>14</sub>alkylene.

2. (original): Cationic dye according to claim 1, wherein

R<sub>1</sub> is methyl.

3. (currently amended): Cationic dye according to ~~any of claims 1 or 2~~ claim 1, wherein

R<sub>1</sub> is methyl,

n is 2, and

R<sub>2</sub> is a substituted or unsubstituted C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>alkylene C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>alkylene.

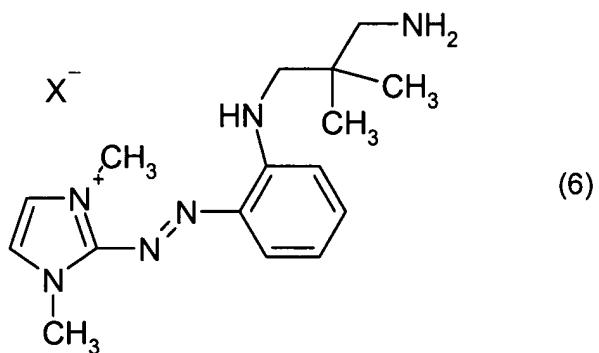
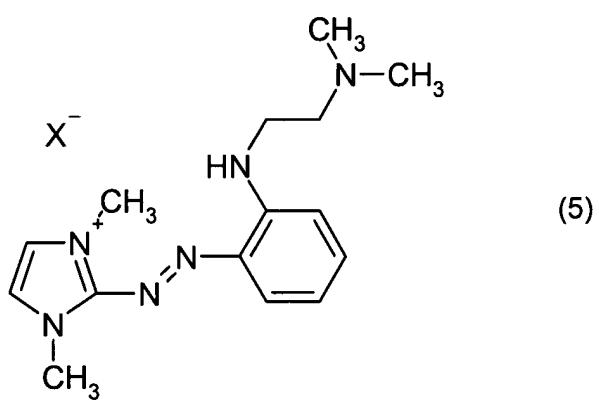
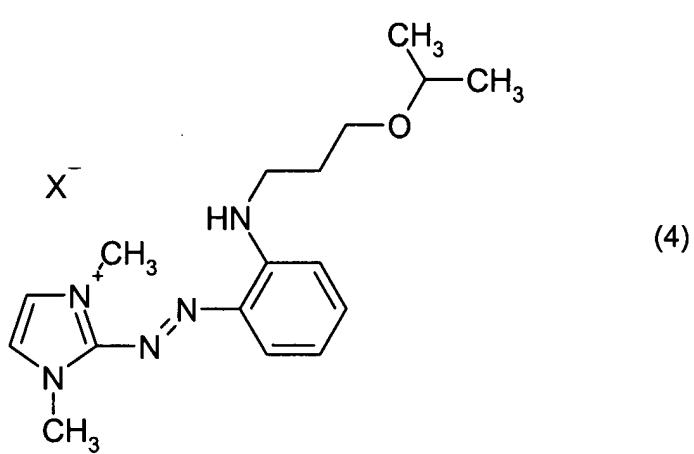
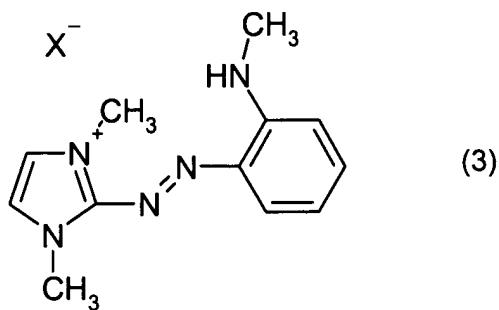
4. (currently amended): Cationic dye according to ~~any of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1, wherein

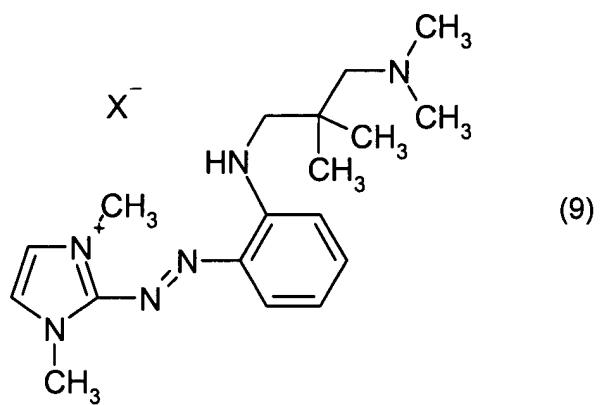
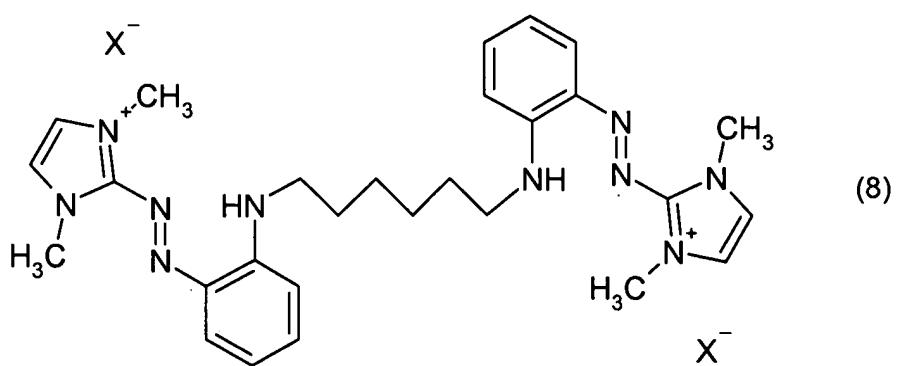
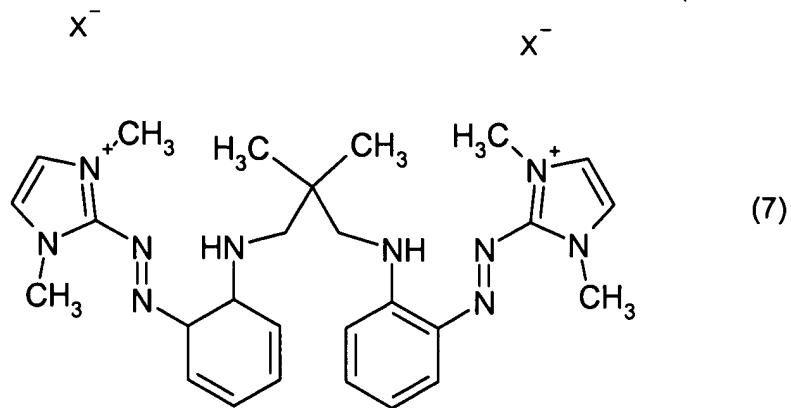
R<sub>1</sub> is methyl,

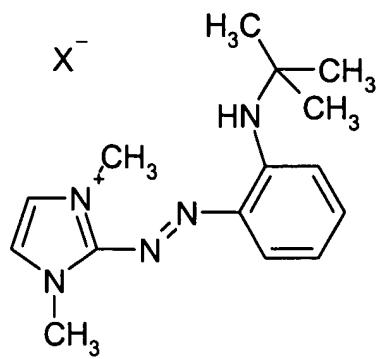
n is 1, and

R<sub>2</sub> is a substituted or unsubstituted C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>alkyl.

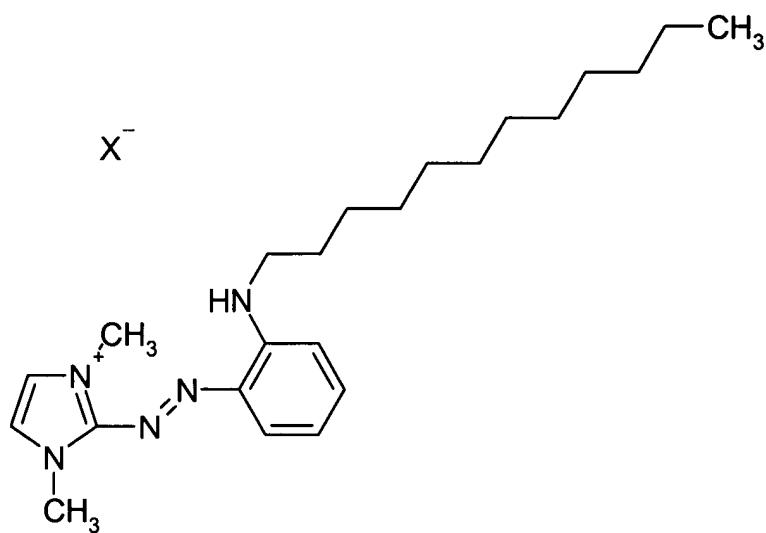
5. (currently amended): Cationic dye according to ~~any of claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1, of formulae (3), (4), (5), (6), (7), (8), (9), (10), (11), (12), (13), (14), (15), (16) or (17)



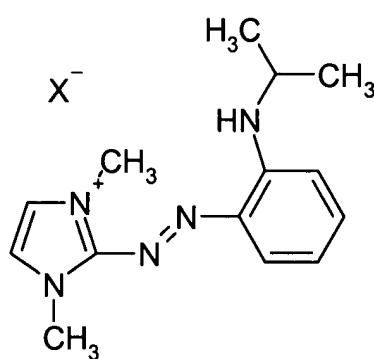




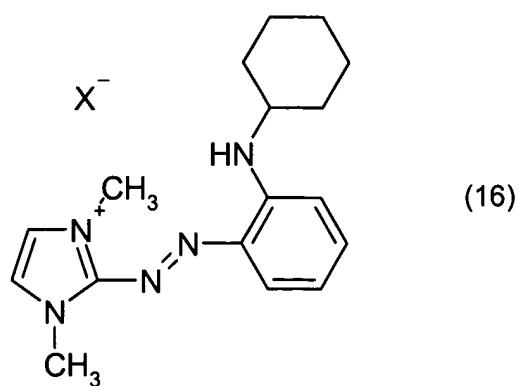
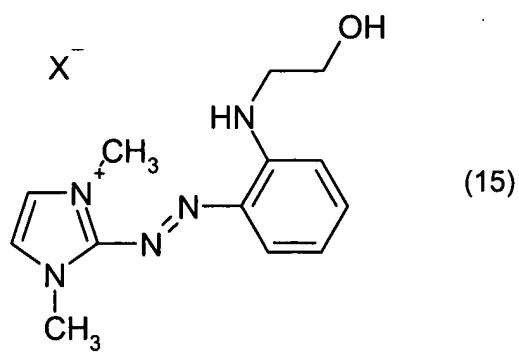
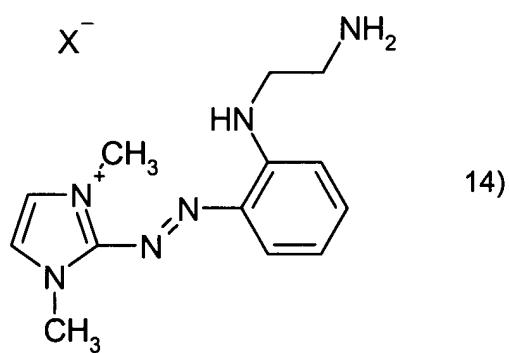
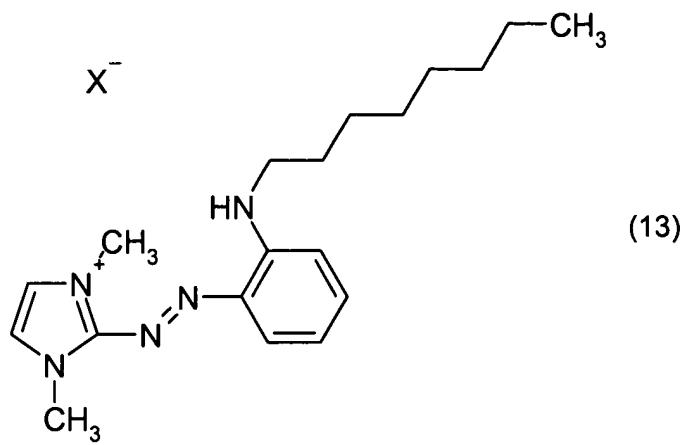
(10)

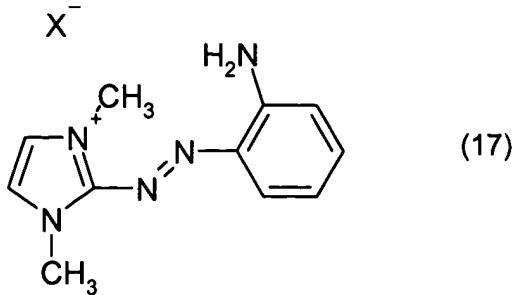


(11)



(12)

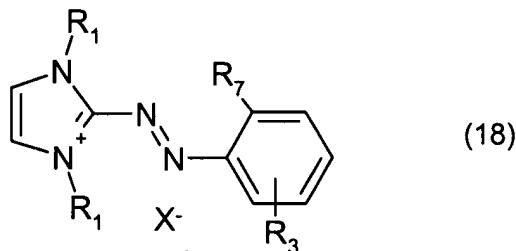




wherein

$X^-$  is an anion.

6. (currently amended): Cationic dye of formula (18)



wherein

$R_7$  is  $C_1-C_6$ alkoxy or halide, and

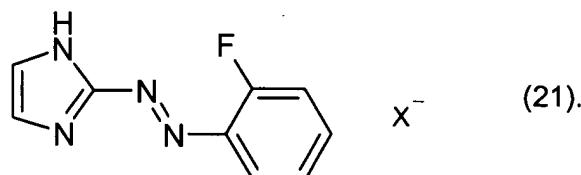
$X^-$  is an anion,

$R_3$  is an unsubstituted or substituted  $C_1-C_{14}$ alkyl, aryl radical,  $C_1-C_6$ alkoxy, cyanid cyanide, nitro or halide, and

$R_1$  is an unsubstituted or substituted  $C_1-C_{14}$ alkyl or an aryl radical;

or

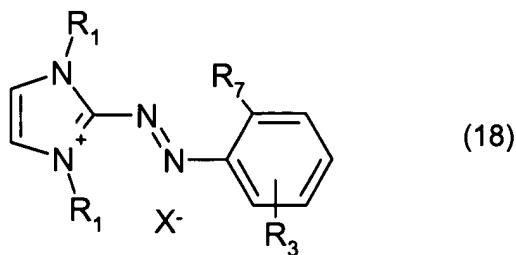
a the compound of formula (21)



7. (currently amended): A process for the preparation of cationic dyes of formula (1) as defined above

in claim 1, comprising

bringing a compound of formula (18)



wherein

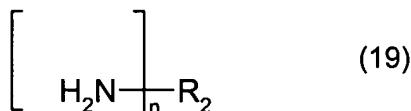
$R_7$  is  $C_1$ - $C_6$ alkoxy or halide;

$R_1$  is an unsubstituted or substituted  $C_1$ - $C_{14}$ alkyl or an aryl radical;

$X^-$  is an anion;

$R_3$  is an unsubstituted or substituted  $C_1$ - $C_{14}$ alkyl, aryl radical,  $C_1$ - $C_6$ alkoxy, cyanid cyanide, nitro or halide;

into contact with an amine of formula (19)



wherein

$n$  is 1 or 2; and

if  $n$  is 1, then  $R_2$  is hydrogen, unsubstituted or substituted  $C_1$ - $C_{14}$ alkyl; or

if  $n$  is 2, then  $R_2$  is an unsubstituted or substituted  $C_1$ - $C_{14}$ alkylene  $-C_4$ - $C_{14}$ alkylen;

into contact.

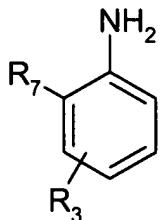
8. (currently amended): A process for the preparation of compound of formula (21) as defined above in claim 6, comprising

a) diazotizing 2-fluoroaniline 2-fluoroaniline and

b) then coupling with imidazole.

9. (currently amended): A process for the preparation of cationic dyes of formula (18) as defined above in claim 6, comprising

a) diazotiation of an amine of formula



wherein

R<sub>7</sub> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>alkoxy or halide,

R<sub>1</sub> is an unsubstituted or substituted C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>14</sub>alkyl or an aryl radical;

R<sub>3</sub> is an unsubstituted or substituted C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>14</sub>alkyl, aryl radical, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>alkoxy, ~~-cyanid~~ cyanide, nitro or halide; and

- a) coupling the diazotiated compound with imidazole, and
- b) then ~~alkylation or arylation~~ alkylating or arylating.

10. (cancelled).

11. (currently amended): A composition comprising at least a single dye of formula (1) as defined above in claim 1 and an adjuvant, or a compound as defined in claim 6, or prepared in accordance with a process according to claims 7 to 10.

12. (original): A composition according to claim 11 comprising in addition at least a single further direct dye and/or an oxidative agent.

13. (original): A composition according to claim 11 comprising in addition at least a single oxidative dye and/or; at least a single oxidative dye and an oxidative agent.

14. (currently amended): A composition according to ~~any one of claims 11 to 13~~ claim 11, in the form of a shampoo, conditioner, gel or emulsion.

15. (currently amended): A method of dyeing organic material, ~~especially human hair~~, that comprises bringing into contact with the organic material at least a single a dye of formula (1) according to claim 1 ~~claims 1 to 5, or a compound as defined in claim 6, or a composition according to claims 10 to 13, or a dye as prepared according to claims 7 to 10~~, and, optionally, a further dye.

16. (currently amended): A method according to claim 15, which comprises for dyeing or tinting human hair.

17. (currently amended): A method for dyeing human hair or strands ~~according to claims 15 or 16~~, that comprises contacting the hair with at least a single ~~a~~ dye of formula (1) as defined in claim 1, ~~or a compound as defined in claim 6~~, and an oxidative agent and, optionally, a further direct dye.

18. (currently amended): A method for dyeing human hair ~~according to any of claims 16 to 17~~, that comprises contacting the hair with at least a single ~~a~~ cationic dye of formula (1) as defined in claim 1, ~~or a compound as defined in claim 6~~, and at least a single oxidative dye; or contacting the hair with a cationic dye of formula (1) as defined in claim 1, ~~or a compound as defined in claim 6~~, and at least a single oxidative dye and an oxidative agent.

19. (new): A method for dyeing human hair, that comprises contacting the hair with a compound as defined in claim 6, and at least a single oxidative dye; or contacting the hair with a compound as defined in claim 6, and at least a single oxidative dye and an oxidative agent.